

LITTLE LIBRARY FINISHING SEMINAR

The main concern with the long-term condition of our Little Libraries is no different from that of our homes (exposure to the elements). Wind, rain and ultraviolet light from the sun are the main issues that will determine the longevity of the wood from which they are constructed. Therefore, it would be best if we finish them as thoroughly as our homes. It is best that we lean to the side of overkill instead of skimping on materials or workmanship. Also, not only will it be necessary to finish them properly, but it will also be of the utmost importance (as our homes) that we be proactive in regard to the maintenance of them. Below are a few suggestions that will help insure that our Little Libraries last as long as possible, touching the lives of as many participants as possible and for as long as possible.

1. All nails, screws and cracks in the wood should be sealed with high quality exterior grade wood filler (inside and out).
 - a. Elmer's Wood Filler Max-2 oz.
2. All joints in the wood and around the door glass must be caulked with high quality exterior grade caulking (inside and out).
 - a. DAP- Dynaflex 230-10 oz. tube
3. After all cracks are filled and sanded, and all joints have been caulked, the wood must be thoroughly sealed (following directions on the label) with high quality acrylic based primer (inside and out).
 - a. Behr Premium Plus 436 Exterior Multi Surface Primer Sealer
4. Once everything is sealed thoroughly, at least two (preferably three) coats of high quality enamel paint must be applied.
 - a. Behr Marquee Exterior Paint (mix to desired color)
5. After mounting, be sure that any mounting screws have been sealed with caulk.

The main idea is to not have any area where any type of moisture can get into the wood.